



Press Release

SUPREME COURT CONFIRMATION CENTER

THE LEGAL COMMUNITY SPEAKS: ROBERTS IS BRILLIANT AND RESPECTED

Almost 150 Members Of The D.C. Bar Supported Supreme Court Nominee John Roberts For The Appellate Bench, Calling Him “Respected” And “Brilliant.”

“Roberts’ nomination to the appellate bench attracted support from both ends of the ideological spectrum. Some 146 members of the D.C. Bar signed a letter urging his confirmation, including Clinton administration officials. The letter said: ‘He is one of the very best and most highly respected appellate lawyers in the nation, with a deserved reputation as a brilliant writer and oral advocate. He is also a wonderful professional colleague both because of his enormous skills and because of his unquestioned integrity and fair-mindedness.’” (Nancy Benac, “Roberts: Low-Key Lawyer, Highly Regarded By Republicans And Democrats,” *The Associated Press*, 7/19/05)

Former Gore-Lieberman 2000 Attorney David Boies Praised Roberts’ Temperament And Character.

BOIES: “John Roberts is a brilliant lawyer, a brilliant judge. He is a very careful judge ... I would agree with what the president said earlier. He is a decent man. I think everybody who knows him likes him.” (MSNBC’s “Scarborough Country,” 7/19/05)

➤ Boies Predicted Roberts Will Be Confirmed With A Filibuster-Proof Majority.

SCARBOROUGH: “David, from you first, is George Bush going to get the 60 votes he needs to get his nominee an up or down vote on the floor?” BOIES: “Yes.” (MSNBC’s “Scarborough Country,” 7/19/05)

Harvard Law Professor And Liberal Legal Scholar Lawrence Tribe Has “A Strongly Favorable Predisposition” To Roberts’ Nomination.

TRIBE: “I’ve known him for a number of years. I’ve admired him. ... I start with an open mind and a strongly favorable predisposition.” (NBC’s “NBC News Special Report,” 7/19/05)

The Chairman Of Hogan & Hartson – One Of The Nation’s Leading Law Firms – Said Roberts “Has A Great Legal Mind.”

“‘John is one of those guys who is almost always the smartest one in the room, but you’d never know it,’ said J. Warren Gorrell Jr., chairman of the Hogan & Hartson. ‘He doesn’t take himself too seriously and is always careful to acknowledge the accomplishments of other people. He has a great legal mind.’” (Neil A. Lewis, “An Ultimate Insider With A ‘Midwest Calm,’” *The New York Times*, 7/20/05)

Another Hogan & Hartson Attorney Portrayed Roberts As “The Best Supreme Court Advocate Of His Generation.”

“‘Before he was appointed to the bench, he established himself as the best Supreme Court advocate of his generation,’ said lawyer Gregory Garre, who worked with Roberts at the Hogan & Hartson law firm in the 1990s.” (James Vicini, “Conservative Republican Picked For US Top Court,” *Reuters*, 7/19/05)

Former U.S. Attorney For Colorado And Two-Time Senate Candidate Tom Strickland Believes Roberts Is “Superbly Qualified” And Praised His “Integrity.”

“‘Strickland ... acknowledged that Roberts, a Republican, ‘is of a different affiliation and political orientation,’ yet ‘is superbly qualified and a gifted lawyer.’ ‘I see the world differently than John on a number of issues, but he is widely hailed for his intellect, integrity and talent,’ Strickland said. ‘If you set aside partisan filters, you have to acknowledge that this is a person of superb qualifications to serve on the highest court.’” (Jeffrey Leib, “Dem Strickland Sees Roberts As ‘First-Rate,’” *Denver Post*, 7/20/05)

- **Strickland Said He Would Tell Sen. Ken Salazar (D-Colo.) That Roberts Is A “First-Rate” Candidate For The Supreme Court.** “‘The president has done well to go to the top cadre. . . . Were I in the U.S. Senate, I would be inclined to be very favorably disposed to confirmation,’ Strickland said, adding that, given the opportunity, he’d tell Colorado’s Democratic Sen. Ken Salazar that Roberts is a ‘first-rate’ candidate for the court.” (Jeffrey Leib, “Dem Strickland Sees Roberts As ‘First-Rate,’” *Denver Post*, 7/20/05)

George Washington University Law Professor Jonathan Turley Gave Roberts “Very High Scores For Intelligence.” TURLEY: “If you want to rate John Roberts, I think that you would have to give him very high scores for intelligence.” (MSNBC’s “Countdown,” 7/19/05)

Kendell Coffey, A Former U.S. Attorney Who Represented Al Gore In The 2000 Recount, Described Roberts As “Very, Very Talented.” COFFEY: “This is a very, very talented, very conservative man who, from the standpoint of the president’s long-term philosophy, probably represents the strongest choice possible.” (MSNBC’s “Countdown,” 7/19/05)